job opportunities, has not been liberalised so far ;

(d) if so, what are the reasons for not liberalising the small sector and the agro-based industries including sugar and milk processing industries ;

(e) whether Government propose to continue with the same policy ;

(f) if so, what is the rationale thereof ; and

(g) if not, what changes are being contemplated and by when these are likely to be brought about ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The anticipated increase in World trade, income and employment as a result of the conclusion of the Uruguay Round negotiations is also likely to enhance employment opportunities in India. The access which would become available to the services markets of our trading partners would also benefit us.

(c) to (g) The small scale sector has been progressively liberalised. With the adoption of the new policy in August 1991, licensing and other restrictions in the small scale sector have been reduced drastically. Employment in the small scale sector has continued to increase from 125.3 lakhs in 1991 to 134 lakhs in 1992-93.

Resisting Changes in Patent Law

1923. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY :
SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE :
SHRI G. G. SWELL :
SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government would be able to resist changes in the patent laws as required under GATT accord ;

(b) if so, details thereof ;

(c) whether our biggest trading partners EC, USA and Japan would compel us to change patent law ;

(d) what kind of changes are likely to occur if amendments have to be undertaken ; and

(e) what is the expected rise in our exports, foreign earnings, and GDP growth due to GATT accord in 1995 ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (d) Negotiations on the Uruguay Round agreements including on intellectual property rights, have been concluded in December, 1993. All 117th negotiating countries including India have joined the consensus in respect of the results of Negotiations. After completion of ratification procedures by the member countries, all members are enjoined to bring their laws and regulations in conformity with their obligations. Changes to the patent law would involve scope of patent, term of patent and compulsory licensing etc.

(e) There are different estimates of the likely trade and income effects of the Uruguay Round. A conservative estimate of increase in world trade by 240 billion dollars has been made by the OECD. Even on the assumptions that India's share of world trade remains constant, India's increase in exports could be in the range of 1.2 to 2 billion dollars.

Seeds under Patent Law

1924. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY :
SHRI ANATRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE :
SHRI G.G. SWELL :
SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the seeds for agricultural production used in India which are under patent